

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Office 510 Desmond Drive SE, Suite 102 Lacey, Washington 98503 Phone: (360) 753-9440 Fax: (360) 753-9518

In Reply Refer To:

FWS Reference: 1-3-02-I-1316, 1-3-02-IC-1326

APR 2 8 2002

Nancy Sweeney
Environmental Protection Officer
United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Health Inspection Services
4700 River Road
Riverdale, Maryland 20737

Dear Mrs. Sweeney:

This responds to your request for informal consultation on the proposed Gypsy Moth Eradication project in Lewis and King Counties, Washington. Your cover letter and biological assessment were dated April 18, 2002, and received in this office on April 23, 2002.

The United States Department of Agriculture determined that the proposed project is "not likely to adversely affect" the bull trout (Salvelinus confluentus) and bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus), and "not likely to jeopardize" coastal cutthroat (Oncorhynchus clarki clarki). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurs with these determinations for the listed and proposed species. Our concurrence is based on the information, guidance, and analysis of the project presented in the April 19, 2002, meeting with Department of Natural Resources personnel, and information in the biological assessment.

This concludes informal consultation/conference process, pursuant to 50 CFR 402.13 and 402.10. This project should be re-analyzed if new information reveals effects of the action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not considered in this consultation/conference; if the action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to the listed species or critical habitat that was not considered in this consultation/conference; and/or, if a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by this project.

If you have further questions about this letter or your responsibilities under the Act, please contact Yvonne Dettlaff or Jim Michaels at (360) 753-9440.

Sincerely,

Ken S. Berg, Manager

Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Office

cc:

WDFW R5

James 2 Medics

DNR, Olympia (C. Phillips)